

Message Text

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51

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 IO-12 NIC-01 OMB-01 NEA-10

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PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 ACDA-19 GAC-01

AID-20 RSR-01 /186 W

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R 171200 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3326

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

USUN NY 0561

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

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EO 11652 N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, SG, CB

SUBJ: SIHANOUK VISIT

REF: DAKAR 1834 AND 1878 NOTAL

BEGIN SUMMARY: IN RETROSPECT, MOST NOTABLE ASPECTS OF SIHANOUK VISIT

(REFTELS) WERE ADDITIONAL CLUES AS TO NATURE OF RAPPORT BETWEEN SIHANOUK AND SENGHOR, SUSTAINED CRITICISM OF US BY SIHANOUK, AND WAYS

IN WHICH PRC WAS OBVIOUSLY PROVIDING NECESSARY SUPPORT TO SIHANOUK.

END SUMMARY.

1. TO SENGHOR, SIHANOUK IS, FIRST, " REPRESENTATIVE OF 1000 YEAR

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OLD CIVILIZATION", FOR WHICH, OF COURSE, SENEGALESE PRESIDENT WAS ABLE TO COIN NEW WORD--" KHMERITUDE". SECOND, THERE IS COMMON BACKGROUND NOT ONLY IN FRENCH EDUCATION AND LANGUAGE, BUT ALSO IN COMMON PARTICIPATION IN FRENCH POLITICAL LIFE IN LATE 1940' S AND 1950' S UNDER 4 TH REPUBLIC. DURING THIS PERIOD, ACCORDING TO SENGHOR, SIHANOUK WAS " PRINCIPAL ARCHITECT OF LIBERATION OF CAMBODIAN PEOPLE" IN WASY THAT WAS LATER TO SERVE AS EXAMPLE TO SENGHOR. SENGHOR FURTHER RECALLED THAT SIHANOUK HAD ATTENDED BANDUNG CONFERENCE IN 1955 AT TIME WHEN HE (SENGHOR) WAS SERVING AS SECRETARY OF STATE IN EDGAR FAURE GOVERNMENT. ALSO, THERE ARE COMMON FRIENDS, SUCH AS SOCIALIST WRITER JEAN ROUS, AND COMMON IDOLS, SUCH AS GENERAL CHARLES DE GAULLE, BOTH CITED BY SENGHOR. TO SIHANOUK, SENGHOR IS SOURCE OF " INDEFATIGABLE EFFORTS" AND " NOBLE ACTIONS" IN BEHALF OF PRINCE' S ROYAL CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT, WHICH ARE ALREADY " INSCRIBED IN GOLD LETTERS IN ANNALS OF KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA". SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED BY SIHANOUK WERE DIRECT SUPPORTIVE SENEGALESE ACTION WITH RESPECT TO " MANY AFRICAN STATES AND GOVERNMENTS"; ALSO AT NON ALIGNED CONFERENCES IN 1970 (DAR ES SALAAO), 1971 (LUSAKA), AND GEORGETOWN (1972); AND AT UN.

2. IN ADDITION TO AND OUTSIDE OF COMMENTS IN PRESS CONFERENCE, REPORTED SEPARATELY, SIHANOUK MINCED NO WORDS IN HIS CRITICISM OF US. HE CHARGED THAT LON NOL REGIME COULD NOT SURVIVE WITHOUT PROTECTIONOF US AVIATION, THAT US EMBASSY IN PHNOM PENH IS A " PETIT PENTAGONE", AND THAT CAMBODIAN PEOPLE ARE VICTIMS OF " IMPERIALIST AND NEO COLONIALIST AGGRESSION COMING FROM UNITED STATES OF AMERICA". HE QUOTED, IN SUPPORT OF HIS CASE, STATEMENT OF SENATOR STUART SYMINGTON BEFORE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE ON APRIL 27, 1973,

ON SUBJECT OF US BOMBING IN CAMBODIA. HE CLAIMED THAT IN SPITE OF US MILITARY EFFORT HIS GOVERNMENT NOW ADMINISTERS 90 PERCENT OF CAMBODIA.

3. PRC SUPPORT FOR SIHANOUK WAS OBVIOUS IN BACKGROUND. SIHANOUK AND PARTY ARRIVED IN TWO RUSSIAN BUILT, PRC- OWNED PLANES. HE ENTERTAINED AT PRC EMBASSY. PRINCE' S DEPARTING GIFT OF 500 TONS OF RICE MUST ACTUALLY COME FROM PRC AND WILL BE TRANSPORTED TO SENEGAL BY PRC.
CLARK

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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